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September 21, 2005

FDIC San Francisco Regional Office Director Johns F. Carter 25 Jessie Street at Ecker Square, Suite 2300 San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Carter,

We are strongly opposed to Wal-Mart ILC's application to conduct banking operations. A bank controlled by the world's largest retailer is simply too much economic power in the hands of too few.

Wal-Mart's horizontal and now vertical monopolization is contrary to the very spirit of American free enterprise. A track record of using shear size to crush independent business ventures is not something that should ever be carried over into the banking sector. This effort serves only Wal-Mart shareholders and it is ultimately to the detriment of all others.

Yours truly,

William T. Owens

**Executive Vice President** 

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